

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-27, 30-37, 39-48, 50-60, 62-85, 87-101, 104-112, and 144-148 without prejudice.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-112. (cancelled)

113. (previously presented) A method of using a computer system to gather information about an organizational process or system, comprising:

obtaining information about an organization to be assessed, wherein the information comprises information regarding assessors;

the computer system preparing at least one question regarding the organizational process or system by analyzing the obtained information about the organization;

the computer system displaying on a display device a first user adjustable icon and a second user adjustable icon and at least one question, the first user adjustable icon being adjustable within a first allowed range; the second user adjustable icon being adjustable within a second allowed range; and wherein the at least one question being adapted to prompt the assessor to input the assessor's perceptions of the organizational process or system;

the computer system receiving a first quantitative input from a user, the first input corresponding to movement of the first user adjustable icon;

the computer system determining a second allowed input range for a second user adjustable icon based on the first input, wherein the bottom of the determined second allowed input range for the second user adjustable icon is the value of the first quantitative input;

the computer system displaying the second user adjustable icon such that the full width of the second user adjustable icon corresponds to the determined second allowed input range; and

the computer system receiving a second quantitative input from the user, the second input corresponding to movement of the second user adjustable icon.

114. (original) The method of claim 113, wherein the first user adjustable icon comprises a sliding bar icon.

115. (original) The method of claim 113, wherein the inputs are numeric inputs.

116. (original) The method of claim 113, wherein displaying comprises displaying remotely.

117. (original) The method of claim 113, wherein displaying comprises displaying across a global computer network.

118. (original) The method of claim 113, wherein the second user adjustable icon comprises a sliding bar icon.

119. (original) The method of claim 113, wherein the first input corresponds to the users perception of an aspect of a process or system in a present state.

120. (previously presented) The method of claim 113, wherein the second input corresponds to the users estimate of an aspect of a process or system in a projected future state.

121. (original) The method of claim 113, wherein determining the second allowed input range for the second user adjustable icon comprises setting a minimum allowed value or the second allowed input range to be equal to the first input.

122. (original) The method of claim 113, wherein determining the second allowed input range for the second user adjustable icon comprises setting a maximum allowed value or the second allowed input range to be equal to the first input.

123. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising analyzing the inputs to determine if one or more problem areas are present in the organizational process or system.

124. (original) The method of claim 123, wherein analyzing the inputs comprises comparing input from two or more assessors to one another.

125. (original) The method of claim 123, wherein analyzing the inputs comprises comparing input from two or more similar questions to one another.

126. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising displaying on the display device at least one corrective action question, the at least one corrective action question being adapted to prompt the assessor to input on the input device the assessor's perception of the problem area of the organizational process or system.

127. (original) The method of claim 126, further comprising receiving at least one corrective action input, the corrective action input being stored in the computer's memory.

128. (original) The method of claim 113, wherein at least one of the first and second inputs are on a numerical scale, the scale being 1 to 10, 1 to 100, or 0 to 100 percent.

129. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising evaluating the organizational process or system by comparing inputs from the assessor with known empirically-gathered information.

130. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising using the first and second inputs together to evaluate the organizational process or system.

131. (original) The method of claim 113, wherein the computer comprises a PDA.

132. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising multiplying the first input with the second input to evaluate the organizational process or system.

133. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising using differences between the first input and the second input to evaluate the organizational process or system.

134. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising receiving first and second inputs from a plurality of assessors, and determining the standard deviation of the first input, and the standard deviation of the second input, from the inputs received from the assessors, and then using a standard deviation to evaluate at least a portion of the organizational process or system.

135. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising preparing an assessment timeline based on assessor input.

136. (original) The method of claim 135, further comprising notifying the assessor of a deadline identified in the assessment timeline.

137. (original) The method of claim 135, further comprising escalating a notification to one or more predetermined individuals if a response is not received from an assessor within a predetermined period of time.

138. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising prompting an assessor to provide recommendations to improve the organizational process or system.

139. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising performing an onsite assessment directed to one or more problem areas determined to be present in the organizational process or system.

140. (original) The method of claim 113, further comprising performing an onsite assessment directed to one or more problem areas determined to be present in the organizational process or system, wherein one ore more onsite assessor are provided with a list of the problem areas and a list of the corrective actions input.

141. (original) The method of claim 140, further comprising providing at least one onsite assessor with a PDA having a list of the problem areas and a list of the corrective actions input.

142. (original) The method of claim 140, wherein the results of the onsite assessment are input into the computer and stored in the computer's memory.

143. (original) The method of claim 140, wherein the results provided by each onsite assessor are adjusted by a bias value identified for that assessor.

Claims 144-148. (cancelled)